

Application No. 09/868,025  
Amendment dated September 9, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of March 9, 2005

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid sequence comprising a polynucleotide, having the sequence SEQ ID NO:1.
2. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide sequence encodes the polypeptide as shown in SEQ ID NO:2.

Claims 3-9 (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) A transgenic plant comprising a recombinant expression cassette comprising a plant promoter operably linked to the nucleic acid sequence as ~~claims~~ claimed in claim 1.

11. (Previously presented) A method for conferring salt tolerance on a plant, the method comprising introducing into the plant a recombinant expression cassette comprising a plant promoter operably linked to the nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 1.